

Old is Gold...

By Beata Levy

PARIS—One of the latest investments by a British pension fund is an exciting cross-channel venture into art and antiques. Thanks to the unlikely combination of a Paris department store building becoming vacant, and the British POSSF (Post Office Staff Superannuation Fund) ready with Frs. 140 million to sink into it, the corner block opposite the entrance to the Louvre Museum in the Rue de Rivoli became converted into an attractive Antiques Market.

The project took two years to complete, with an additional Frs. 450 million from an international bank consortium. Today the "Louvre des Antiquaires", a London-type antiques market, is open for business, with every one of its 240 stands fully let on three floors—and crowded most of the day.

For there are no more inveterate lovers of antiques than the French. Paris has some of the greatest dealers of fine furniture in the world, on the Left Bank and around the Place Vendôme.

At the other end of the scale, its famous flea market has always attracted serious dealers and amateurs.

In between there are 8,000 registered antique businesses—a staggering number compared with Britain's 4,000. What is more, they have been multiplying fast, especially in the provinces, as have antique fairs, now over 150 in number.

All this adds up to a total of Frs. 2 billion worth of antiques changing hands officially in 1977 (compared with Frs. 700 million in 1970).

But saturation point seems nowhere in sight. The new "Louvre des Antiquaires", despite its pompous title, is further whetting the appetite of Parisians. This may be as much due to its layout and convenient location as to an intelligent sales policy which sets out to create confidence.

Unlike most antique shops the world over, a clearly visible price tag accompanies every item in display. This is one of the market's internal rules, another being periodic inspections of the claims made for the merchandise.

A bureau of experts is on the

Even the British, whose taste for antiques is well developed, are cashing in on the antiques boom in France. Not everything that is old is equally valuable, however. French collectors will pay up to Frs. 1,000 for an old postcard, but currently show no interest in 18th century furniture.

spot to authenticate the purchase at the buyer's request, and to deliver a certificate guaranteeing age and quality. But since errors of judgement are always possible, would-be purchasers are encouraged to take out an insurance policy at a low premium which promises the refund of the purchasing price if the guarantee can be proved wrong.

"The Japanese keep telling me they prefer our market to antique shops because prices here do not shoot up the moment they are showing interest," said the American owner of an Art Nouveau stand.

The "Louvre des Antiquaires" may win back some of the clientele that antique dealers have lost to auctioneers. Many family buyers who used to spend weekends browsing through junk shops are attending auction sales instead. On occasion they pay over the odds at an auction for merchandise they had previously turned down at a dealer's because of distrust and ignorance.

Not all auctioneers are doing well, however. Those who specialise in 18th century furniture are complaining of lack of demand. Interests in firearms is also at a low ebb. Prices for non-figurative modern paintings are refusing to climb back to their pre-1974 high levels.

But innocent kids such as postcard collecting is spreading like wildfire, and are responsible for the increased turnover of one specialised auctioneer from Frs. 6,000 to Frs. 28,000 within six months. The addiction has hit 100,000 Frenchmen, so that Frs. 1,000 is no longer an unusual price to pay for one old postcard.

Silver and jewellery are booming. There is also a strong demand for art from the Middle East, an Iranian manuscript having recently changed hands at a record price of Frs. 720,000.

The president popularity of Art Nouveau explains the new peak reached when a Galle lamp sold

for Frs. 140,000. In as much demand as ever are the minor classic painters of the turn of the century, the Pompiers, and the Orientalists.

More exciting and new is the promising interest in pre-1860 painters—"Cavalier Grec" by Delacroix reached Frs. 3.4 million, and a William Klesz Heda Frs. 1.25 million.

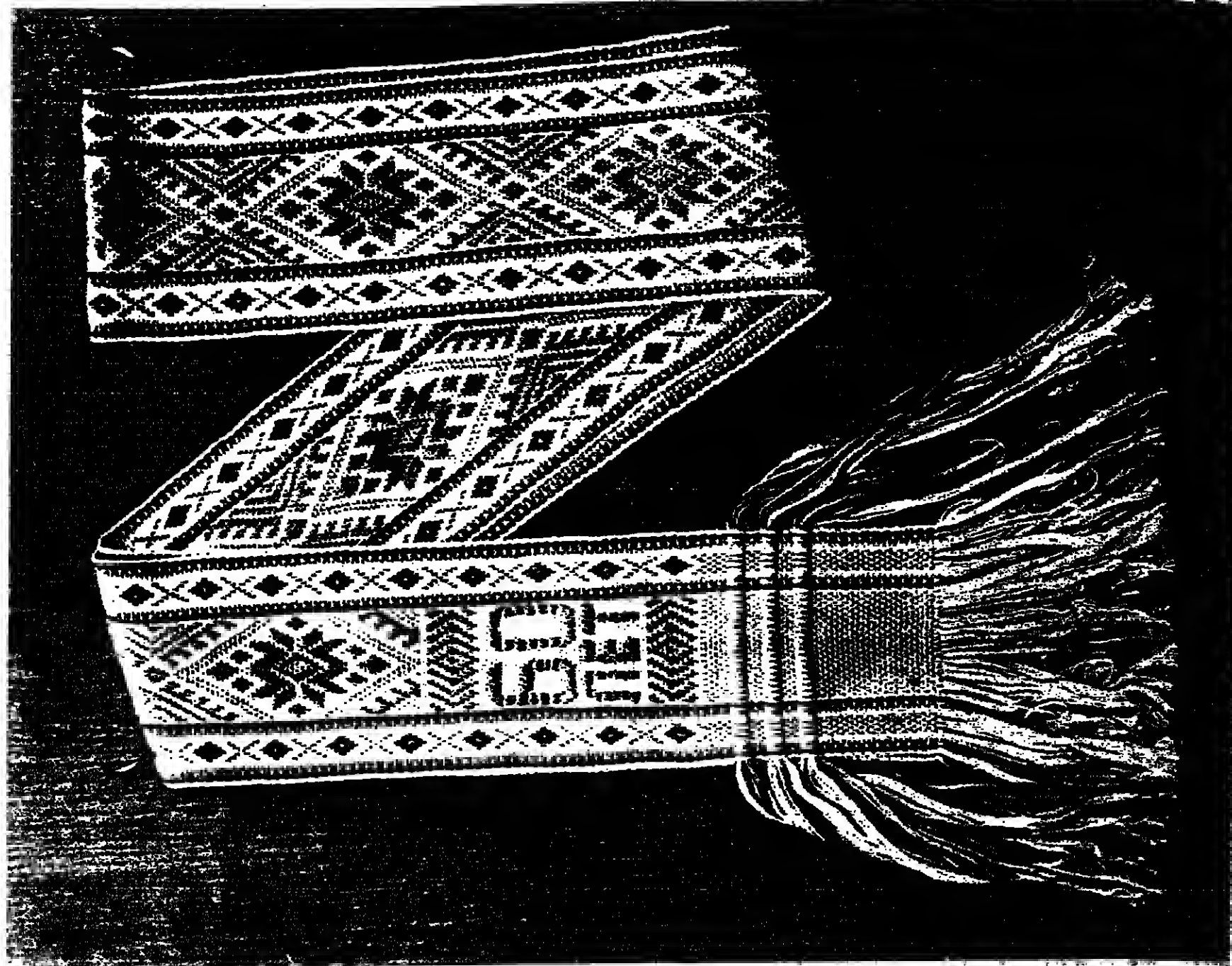
This is all the more welcome since auction sales got off to a slow start after the summer recess. At about the same time, a certain nervousness had seized the top dealers who took part in the 9th Biennale—which to collectors is the most celebrated of international antique fairs. In 1978 it proved to be a bitter commercial disappointment. The Renaissance bronzes, French furniture from royal palaces, and paintings by old masters, all museum pieces, remained unsold. Prices were deemed to be exorbitant.

Neither can the market in modern paintings be feeling elated after the recent mishap connected with the cancelled sale of three Mondrians to the Pompidou Museum of Modern Art. At the eleventh hour, doubts were cast on the authenticity of the paintings, which had previously been praised by a number of experts. Realists are now saying that the Frs. 6m which almost changed hands is a sum large enough to undermine confidence in abstract art further.

Confidence is now the keyword and panacea for every ailing branch of the art world. Did not the POSSF's investment show confidence in the French passion for antiques? The new antique market is leaning on it to catch new enthusiasts. The auctioneers, by virtue of their being "ministerial officers", have always been personally responsible for the accuracy of the merchandise described.

It only remains for collectors to feel confident that they will be able to pay for it all.

Financial Times News-Features



A belt of Slutsk

Craftswomen retain skills

For two centuries the fame of Slutsk belts has failed to fade away. The best samples have come into the treasure-

house of world art. 18th century. At that time they were not only a significant part of men's garments, but a symbol of distinction. At

first, weavers were such belts started in Krakow and at the end of the 18th century the skill of Byelorussian weavers, and high quality of works remained consummate. Works of the 18th century are exported to East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Finland and Sweden. Weavers of Slutsk learned to make two, and even four faces of various patterns on a single belt. The so-called "cast" belts, the face side of which was interwoven with gold thread covering the silk ground, demanded their special skill. Moments of Manufacturing of (TASS)



Anna Poleschuk (centre) learned the difficult art of weaving patterned belts from her mother. Now she shares her experience with young people.

AMMAN MARKET PLACE

HOTELS

YOUR PERFECT DINNER PARTY IS ONLY A CALL AWAY
Yes, with only four hours notice we will serve a three course lunch or dinner in the comfort and privacy of your own home.

For reservation call 41364 ext 5

RESTAURANTS

MANDARIN

CHINESE RESTAURANT

Jabal Hussein
Near Maxima Circle.
Here you can enjoy the Mandarin Chinese cuisine. Open daily from 12:30 to 4:00 and 6:00 to midnight. For take home food orders please call 25786.

FURNITURE

LET AD-DAR FURNISH YOUR HOME OR OFFICE "TURN-KEY" FROM OUR SUPERB IMPORTS CHOSEN TO SUIT EVERY TASTE & BUDGET.

Visit us today at Wall Street St. Tel. 39008

TRANSPORTATION

SATELLITE RENT-A-CAR

BRAND NEW MODELS
TEL. 25767

JORDAN EXPRESS CO.

PACKING & CRATING
AIR & SEA FREIGHT
TRAVEL & TOURISM
KING HUSSEIN ST., P.O.B. 2143
TEL. 22565, 21778, 38141

NATIONAL RENT-A-CAR

1979 Models now available
SHEPHERD HOTEL Tel. 39197

SHIPPING
TRAVEL & TOURISM
WORLD-WIDE HOTEL RESERVATIONS
AIR, CARGO FORWARDERS
CLEARANCE DOOR TO DOOR

Please Contact:
AMIN KAWAR & SONS
P.O. BOX 222, AMMAN
TEL. 22324-9
TELEX 1212 & 1520

JEWELLERY

BARAKAT JEWELLERY

F. Barakat
Bijoutier, Antiquaire
& Numismate
Jordan Insurance Co. Bldg. No. 3
3rd Circle, Jabal Amman
Amman - Jordan

MISCELLANEOUS

EYES EXAMINED

CONTACT LENSES (Hard & Soft)

OPTIKOS SHAMI O.D.
The best Ever Made in Optics

Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Tel. 49945

To advertise in this section

phone 6744-2-3

دليل ايد 1250

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31, 1979

Your **HOROSCOPE**

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES. In the morning you could choose between two points of view, so make up your mind just what you want to do for your best interests. Impress others with your talents.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Remove obstacles in the path of your progress so you can get ahead faster. Enjoy the company of good friends in the evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Complete outside business matters early in the day and then handle private matters wisely. Think constructively.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You could have some irritating situations that crop up in the morning but all is fine later in the day. Be logical.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Be willing to make personal changes that could give you greater abundance in the future. Avoid the social tonight.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Keep any promises that are important in the morning and then study exciting new interests that could give you added income.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Complete deals with associates in the morning, then turn to outside matters that are important. Be alert to opportunities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Handle all that work ahead of you and then make the right outside contacts that are important to your future welfare.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Put those creative ideas to work and impress others. Avoid one who is jealous of you. Be more proud of yourself.

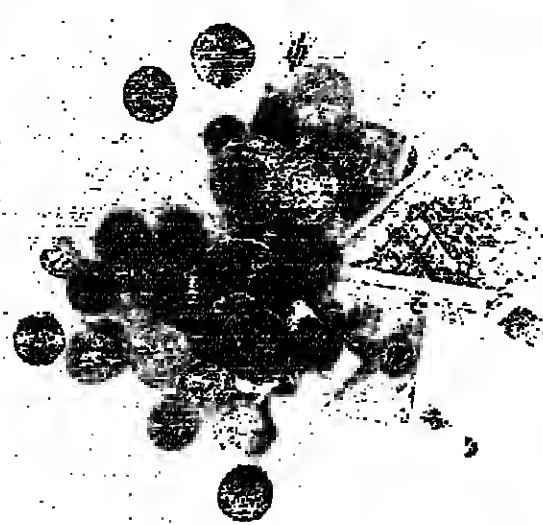
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A most difficult problem in your line of endeavor can be solved in at this time. Try to please your mate more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make sure that reports and correspondence are correctly handled. A trusted friend can give the advice you need.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have to be very careful in the handling of money at this time to carry through with your plans. Strive for happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Use care in the handling of personal matters in the morning. Take needed health treatments and improve your appearance.

Coins are cleaner



Where there's much there's brass, the saying goes, and notes and coins are none too clean either. But Professor Reimer Levitzow of West Berlin's Federal Health Authority has made a bacteriological survey of money from West Germany and neighbouring countries and says the health hazard is exaggerated. He found fungi on three per cent of coins and 20 per cent of notes, but claimed there is no health risk if food is handled by a cashier who also handles money.

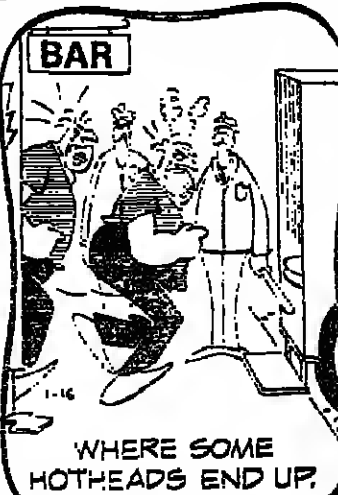
JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SINOE
ORPEN
RANLE
MULVLE

Print answer here: IN

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOSSY HARRY BASKET EIGHTY
Answer: The best kind of beet to serve a minister — "PRIME" (prime minister)



WHERE SOME HOTHEADS END UP.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE BETTER HALF

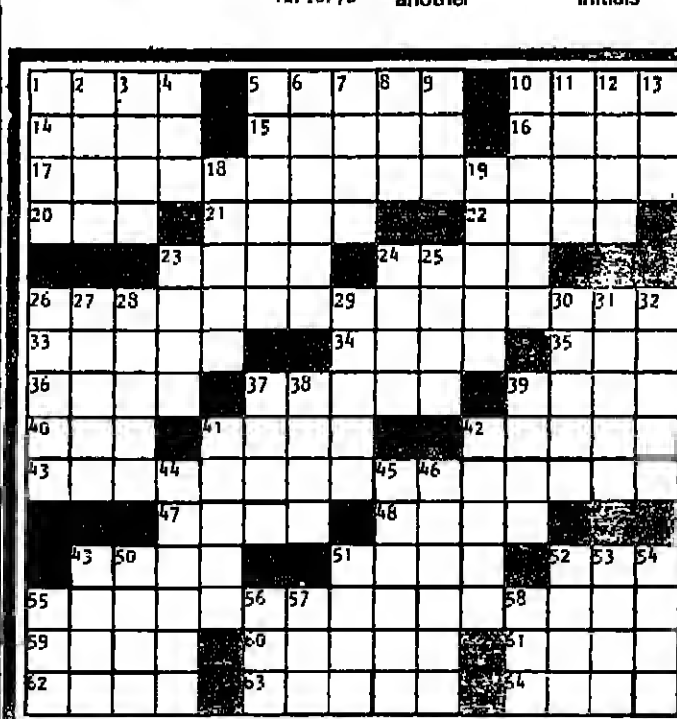
By Bar



"Why, Mr. Porker, how sweet of you to remember me! I was in that big cake at the stag party the other night!"

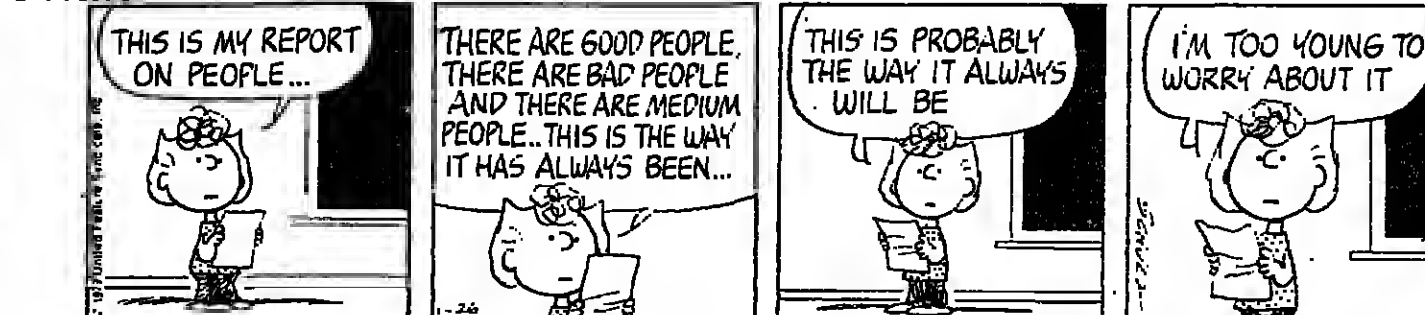
THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

ACROSS	34 Dines	55 Lovable	27 Rough
1 Belfry	35 Judge Bean	56 Burns	28 Summum
occupants	36 Love god	57 Crabby	forth
5 Gives away	37 Data	58 French	29 Malayan
secrets	38 Amec role	59 soldier	lizard
10 Accessible	40 "— not what	61 Musical	30 Athletes'
14 Reflected	your...	62 work	theater
sound	41 Lie luxuri-	63 Shoemakers'	31 Punctuation
15 Engine room	ously	tools	mark
16 Mad fiddler	42 Indian	64 Has a walk-	32 Position of
17 Yankee idol	transporta-	on part	the planets
20 Use needle	43 Cardinal	64 Spinner of	at birth
and thread	favorites	verse	37 Abstain
21 Hires out	47 Man of the	DOWN	38 Captures
22 Final	law abbr.	1 Wagers	41 Textile
23 Farm plot	48 Gives	2 Dull pain	process
24 Frustrate	49 assent	3 Muscle	42 Given up
26 Detroit	48 Italian	4 Help call	44 Reptiles,
33 Ostrichous	51 — qua non	5 Short	for short
one	62 Educ. org.	6 Trash	45 Busy
		7 Woeful word	engaged
		8 Big — of	46 Sounding;
		9 London	comb. form
		10 Store sign	49 All in line
		11 Church	50 Food or
		12 Part of QED	music
		13 Negative	51 Cut
		word	52 Melon
		18 Sore	53 Veracious
		19 Tosses	54 Sidekick;
		22 Matures	55 Young per-
		24 Command	son's org.
		25 Fare for	56 Records,
		Dobbin	for short
		26 Pay for	57 Pronoun
		another	58 Political
			party
			initials

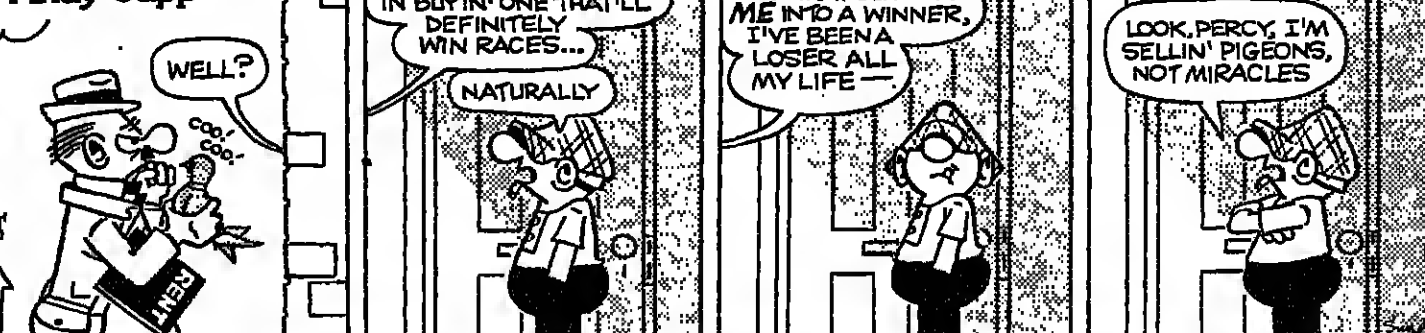


© 1978 by Chicago Tribune-N.Y. News Synd. Inc. All Rights Reserved

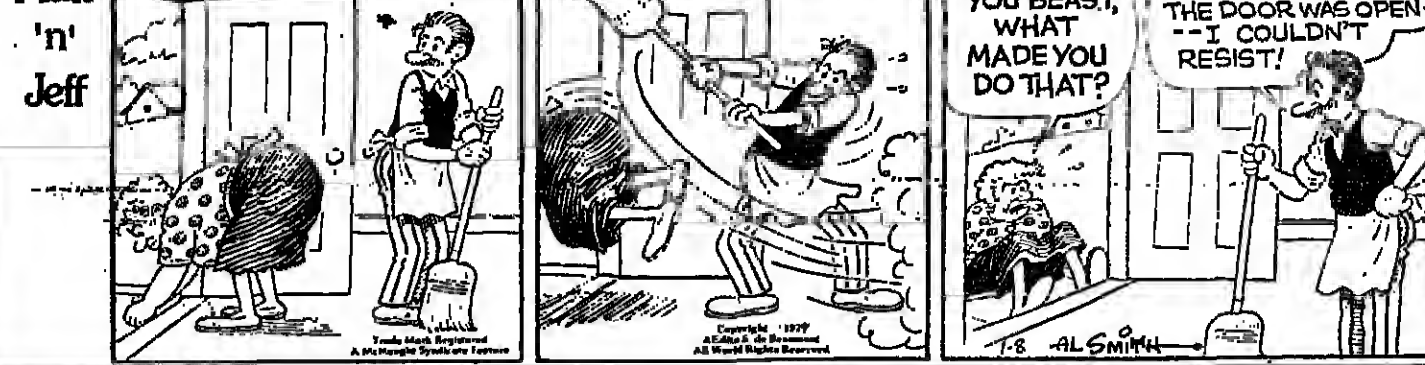
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flintstones



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1978 by Chicago Tribune

DEAR MR. GOREN:

Why do you think men are generally better bridge players than women? Are we really mentally superior?

W. Fort Worth, Texas
(This question has been forwarded the weekly prize.

—You have turned to the wrong party if you are hoping that I will back up that particular assertion. Remember, my wife, partner, has the last word. She is the one who

added her cards as well as any man I've played with.

In addition, I personally don't believe that men are better than women at bridge. While I have

nothing to back me up, I would argue a guess that, in the average game, the women are at least as good, if not better, than men.

However, there is no denying the fact that at national and international championships, the male is dominated by the male. While 55 percent of all players are women, only rarely has a woman won a major national championship, and the number of women who have represented their country in open competition is even fewer. I would like to point out, however, that the winners of the Life Master Pairs title, perhaps the most prestigious in tournament bridge, are Mary and Farrell Hills and Carolyn Johnson of Houston, the only women's pair ever to have won this championship.

Why is it, though, that at the top level the game has been male-dominated? I am not sure I know the reason. A heavy has been advanced that

men find it easier to concentrate completely on the game. Women are distracted by the hairdresser's appointment, by worrying about what they have to prepare for dinner, about whether the baby-sitter is looking after little Johnny properly, etc.

But that theory is flawed: Men have business and other worries that should distract them as much as women are bothered by other matters.

Psychological tests have repeatedly shown that in exercises of logic and other mental skills, women are fully the equal of men. However, there are other tests that have shown that, by and large, women are not as aggressive as men. That could be the key factor.

To succeed at bridge, you must have a killer instinct—an overwhelming desire to win—and that could be the vital difference. By that, I do not mean a lack of femininity. Certainly, Helen was a killer at the bridge table—there was nothing she hated more than losing. But no one who knew her would ever accuse her of being unfeminine in any way.

Q.—Can anyone enter a North American Bridge Championship?—R. Williams, Norfolk, Va.

A.—In theory, only members of the American Contract Bridge League are entitled to play in the North American Championships. However, I have never heard of a nonmember being turned away from a game.

There are some limitations. Several events are restricted to players who hold a certain number of master points. Outside of that, all events are open.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3	CHANNEL 6
5:30 Quran	6:30 French programme
5:45 Carooms	7:00 News in French
6:00 French language	7:30 News in Hebrew
6:20 Tom and Jerry	8:30 Comedy
6:45 Young Dan'l Boone	9:10 Centennial
7:30 Survival	10:00 News in English
8:00 News in Arabic	10:15 The American Girls
8:30 Arabic series	
9:30 T.V. Magazine	
10:15 The American girls	
11:00 News in Arabic	

RADIO JORDAN

7:00	14:00
Sign on	News bulletin
7:10 Morning show	14:10 Music
7:30 News Bulletin	14:30 Stars unlimited
7:40 Morning show	15:00 Concert hour
10:00 News summary	16:00 News summary
10:30 30 minute theatre	16:30 Easy listening
11:00 Signing off	16:30 Pedagogical pop
12:00 Signing on and news headlines	17:00 30 minutes of jazz
12:05 Radiotheque	17:30 Radiotheque
13:00 News summary	18:00 News Summary
13:05 Radiotheque	18:05 Hay On Nagoon
	18:30 As I see it (Joan Rice)
	19:00 News Bulletin
	19:10 News reports
	19:30 Sign off

BBC RADIO

GMT	13:30
04:00 Newsdesk	World Radio Club
04:30 The Songs of Schubert	13:45 A Jolly Good Show
04:45 Letter from London; Reflections	14:30 Talkabout
05:00 News; 24 Hours	15:00 Radio Newsworld
05:30 Sarah Ward	15:15 Outlook
05:45 World Today	16:00 News; Commentary
06:00 Newsdesk	16:15 The World of Ballet
06:30 Just for the Asking	16:45 World Today
07:00 News; 24 Hours	17:00 News; Book Choice
07:30 Sarah Ward	17:15 Discovery
07:45 Report on Religion	17:45 Sports Round-Up
08:00 News; Reflections	18:00 News; News about Britain
08:30 News; Press Review	18:15 Radio Newsworld
09:15 World Today	18:30 Top Twenty
09:30 Financial News	19:00 Outlook; News Summary
09:40 Look Ahead	19:30 Stock Market
09:45 The Billingtons Interview	19:45 Encores
10:15 Book Programme	20:00 News; 24 Hours
10:30 Magical Mystery Tour	20:30 A Taste of Hanoi
11:00 News; News about Britain	21:00 Report on Religion
11:15 Poetry U.K.	21:15 Network U.K.
11:30 Planning World	21:30 King's College: Choir
12:00 Radio Newsworld	22:00 News; World Today
12:15 Take it or leave it	22:30 Financial News
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:35 Book Choice; Reflections
13:00 News; 24 Hours	22:50 Sports Round-up
	23:00 News; Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	19:00
03:30 The Breakfast Show	News Roundup; reports, opinion, analysis
04:30 News; pop music; features, listeners, questions	19:30 VOA Magazine; American, science, culture letters
17:00 News Roundup; reports, opinion, analysis	20:00 Special English; news
17:30 Dateline	20:15 Music USA (12:21)
18:00 Special English; news; feature "Space and Man"	21:00 VOA World Report
18:30 News; Music USA	22:00 News; Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analysis

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS	DEPARTURES
7:50 Cairo (EAT)	7:30 Amman
8:15 Dhahran (42)	8:00 Beirut (MEAT)
8:25 Muscat, Doha (RJ/GF)	8:55 Cairo (EAT)
8:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ/GF)	9:00 Amman (EAT)
9:00 Jeddah	9:10 Amman (EAT)
9:15 Kuwait	9:15 Amman (EAT)
10:00 Amman	10:00 Amman (EAT)
10:20 Bahrain	10:00 Amman (EAT)
10:30 Beirut	10:00 Amman (EAT)
11:35 Larnaca (CY)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
11:50 Kuwait (KAC)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
12:15 Baghdad	10:00 Amman (EAT)
13:10 Baghdad, Larnaca (Taron)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
13:15 Baghdad	10:00 Amman (EAT)
13:30 Cairo	10:00 Amman (EAT)
18:00 Jeddah (JOL)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
19:00 Beirut (MEAT)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
19:20 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva	10:00 Amman (EAT)
19:30 Amsterdam, Istanbul, Beirut (KLM)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
20:30 Cairo	10:00 Amman (EAT)
21:15 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (LH)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
22:00 London (BA)	10:00 Amman (EAT)
22:50 Cairo	10:00 Amman (EAT)
01:00 Rome (IAZ)	10:00 Amman (EAT)

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	At Khosh (252-60)
Amman: Abdul Salam Al Muhsein (77733)	Kamal (136-25)
Abbas Hakem (51226)	Shadi (126-25)
Irbid: Adnan Al Habbani (2460)	Irbid: Al Hadheth
Zarqa: Nadi at Amman (82680)	Zarqa: Al Aspa
Tamra: Taha	Tamra: Taha
Pharmacies: Asfour (232-30)	Asfour (232-30)
Amman: Khalid (23715)	Khalid (23715)
Nasrallah: Al Shalhad (21091)	Al Shalhad (21091)
Al Yarmouk: Rami (2395)	Rami (2395)

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	Tel. 41320
British Council	368-27
French Cultural Centre	370-00
Greek Institute	41903
Soviet Cultural Centre	42023
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Haya Arts Centre	68195
Hansen Youth City	67188
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.C.A.	64251
Amman Municipal Library	51585
University of Jordan Library	65111
Chalkei Museum	36191
Folklore Museum	36191

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 25111
Civil defence rescue	2491-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36301-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
Police headquarters	39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency	31111, 37777
Airport information (AJAL)	51585
Jordan Television	73111
Radio, English Section	74124
Fire, fire, police	19
Fire headquarters	22900

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hama Theatre	Tel. 236-448
Al Shab An Gallery	358-27
American Centre	552-362
Arab Cultural Centre	333-727
Bulgarian Cultural Centre	557-401
British Cultural Centre	333-904
Deutscher Demokratischer Kultur-Zentrum	333-032
French Cultural Centre	330-694
Karabuni Theatre	222-016
National Museum	114-834
Soviet Cultural Centre	334-003
Spanish Cultural Centre	334-003
Umm al-Qalbi Gallery	334-003
Zaima Public Library	111-318

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 40
Charter of Cyrenote	118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair)	223-887
Fire headquarters	1
Information	9507
Municipal water service	113-800

OUT & ABOUT

CHINESE RESTAURANT

QUICK MEAL

First and best Chinese restaurant in Jordan.

First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Ahliyah School of CMS, Tel. 38688.

Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to midnight.

Also take home service-order by phone.

Speciality: Steaks.

Jabal Amman First Circle Tel. 21083. Jabal Hussein behind Tel. 21781.

Jerusalem Cinema Tel. 21781.

Jabal Luweibeh Hawwar Circle Tel. 30646. Zarqa Cinema Nasr Tel. 83011. Irbid Baghdad Street Tel. 2408. Naour opposite the municipality Tel. 26. Madaba King Abdullah Street Tel. 180. Mafrq Tel. 194. KERAK-Jerash opposite Ajloun crossroad. Sweidh.

Pina Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luweibeh, Tel. 221034.

Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and in car.

Open 12:30 p.m. and 7-12 p.m.

Speciality: Steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "SOUT WA SOURA" Tel. 38869

Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

one 674

U.N. resolution on trade gives support to developing nations

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 30 (R) — Despite negative votes from the United States, Canada and the nine European Common Market countries, the General Assembly approved a resolution yesterday calling for reform of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The resolution, which passed by 110 to 11 with 11 abstentions, emphasised the rights of developing countries in any changes made to the international trade regime.

The North American and EEC countries did not detail the objections which prompted their "no" votes, but they apparently disapproved of changes mentioned in the resolution, including special treatment for developing countries.

The resolution said that any new codes or rules in negotiations affecting developing countries' trade should not be adopted without full participation and acceptance by those countries.

The assembly also urged all participants in multilateral trade negotiations to assess jointly the impact of the 1973 Tokyo declaration concerning additional benefits to developing countries and to take corrective measures as necessary.

The assembly called on developed states to abide by

agreements reached in the 1973 Tokyo declaration, especially concerning principles of reciprocity in trade relations between developed and developing countries, and special and differential treatment for developing countries.

The resolution said that results of the negotiations should reflect the substantial reduction and eventual abolition of tariff and non-tariff restrictions against the trade of developing countries, removal of discriminatory and escalatory barriers against them, and improvement in the operation of the generalised system of preferences to provide wider coverage and deeper cuts in tariffs.

U.N. budget
The General Assembly also approved the United Nations' first

\$1 billion budget, but states responsible for three-quarters of that sum declined to vote for it.

The resolution, adding \$93.7 million to the already agreed budget for 1978-79, was adopted by 98 to 15 with nine members abstaining.

Chided for failing to trim costs, Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said he could not control inflation and currency fluctuations which were largely responsible for the increase.

He noted that \$18.5 million of the extra cash needed was for programmes approved by the General Assembly, and asked: "What should the secretary-general do—not implement the resolutions?"

Yuri Fokine of the Soviet Union, who voted against the budget, said those responsible for currency devaluation—an allusion to the United States—should make up the deficit.

Melissa Wells of the United States said she voted against the resolution to express American concern at the lack of proper budgetary restraint. She urged delegates to join in an attempt to make the U.N. more effective, more efficient and more economical.

The revised budget totals \$1.09 billion, an increase of more than 38 per cent on the sum approved just 13 months ago for the two-year period.

Biggest contributor by far to U.N. funds is the United States, which has to pay 25 per cent of the budget. The Soviet Union ranks second at 11.60 per cent, followed by Japan (8.64 per cent) and West Germany (7.70 per cent).



Making the best of a hard situation

This picture was taken inside a Khmer refugee camp near the Thai border, where life is being organised with the means available. Children are shown attending an improvised school. (Gamma photo)

More 'boat people' leaving Vietnam?

MANILA, Jan. 30 (R)—More refugees from Vietnam may now be on their way to the outside world with the official sanction of the Hanoi Government, Philippine officials said today.

The Foreign Ministry officials said three vessels may be taking on refugees at Ho Chi Minh City and another could already be at sea.

The officials said they had reports that the boats at Ho Chi Minh City were being loaded in accordance with new formal pro-

cedures laid down by the Vietnamese Government.

"If they see the Philippines as the only country which allows them to have temporary asylum, they may all come here," one senior ministry official told Reuters.

He said that concern over such a possibility would mark a meeting tomorrow of a ministry committee dealing with the fate of the Tung An, a ship carrying 2,300 refugees which has been anchored in Man-

ila Bay for more than a month.

The official said the Tung An might now be sent to Hong Kong unless the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) could show there was still a chance of the refugees being taken quickly by other countries.

"If the UNHCR tells us that countries are no longer taking refugees from the ship, then it means we have failed in our appeal to the 19 countries we asked to help," he said.

He said the Hong Kong-owned Tung An, which arrived on Dec. 27 with 2,318 refugees, was given temporary asylum in Manila Bay so that the UNHCR could make arrangements for their speedy resettlement. If no one took the remainder, then the reason for giving the temporary asylum no longer existed, he said.

The ship would then have to proceed to Hong Kong, its scheduled first port of call, which has just allowed 2,700 refugees to land. They came from another vessel, the Huey Fong, which the British colony kept outside its harbour for a month.

Malta still lacks aid, neutrality guarantees

ROME, Jan. 30 (R)—Arab and Western nations are unlikely to finalise a pact guaranteeing Malta's neutrality before the last British troops leave the island on March 31, well-informed Italian sources said yesterday.

Italy and France, representing the European Common Market, have been discussing an agreement with the Libyan Jamahiriya and Algeria as Malta seeks both financial aid and guaranteed

neutrality.

Maltese Premier Dom Mintoff wants some \$76 million annually to compensate for the closure of the British bases he himself ordered, the sources said.

A final declaration underwriting the Mediterranean island's neutrality would probably not be completed by the time Britain's remaining 1,000 troops left, the sources added.

China to rehabilitate more political victims

PEKING, Jan. 30 (R)—Peking has given local authorities throughout China one week in which to rehabilitate all deserving people who have been persecuted or purged by extremist political leaders, informed sources said yesterday.

The sources said the local authorities had been warned that the press would start naming those organisations which failed to meet the deadline.

In another major move, the New China News Agency (NCNA) reported yesterday that some of the bitterest targets of the Communist Party after its victory in 1949 would no longer be stigmatised as "landlords, rich peasants, counter-revolutionaries and bad elements" if they had reformed. Their children would also no longer suffer for their "class origin," NCNA added.

This follows last week's announcement by NCNA that China was to give back money and property seized from former capitalists during the cultural revolution.

Yesterday the news agency quoted from a circular by the Public Security Ministry saying reformed landlords, rich peasants and others previously branded as undesirable would be called "commune members or workers, according to the kind of work they do, and have the same citizenship rights as other people."

On the rehabilitation issue, a number of former leaders who had

been purged and persecuted during the past 20 years or so have already had their names cleared.

Sources said, however, there had been growing concern among central authorities that people in lower-level positions who had suffered were not being rehabilitated quickly enough.

The New China News Agency, meanwhile, in referring to former class enemies, said the Communist Party Central Committee earlier this month had reached "a decision on the question of removing the designations of landlords and rich peasants and on the class status of landlords and rich peasants."

The agency said the "great majority of landlords, rich peasants, counter-revolutionaries and bad elements" had successfully reformed themselves.

It said the Central Committee decision had noted that landlords and rich peasants from the pre-1949 days had "undergone remoulding through manual labour for two or three decades and the great majority of them have become labouring people who earn their own living." It said they should now be treated like any other commune member.

"Qualifications for school enrollment, job allocation, joining the army, the Communist Youth League and the party should be based mainly on the political behaviour of the persons concerned without discrimination."

Their children should be similarly

treated.

The leaders of six human rights groups said yesterday they would continue to fight for more freedom in China in spite of a threatened crackdown on the more outspoken advocates of democracy.

The leaders held a tally attended by several hundred people at Peking's "democracy wall" and it seemed designed to coincide with yesterday's first round of talks between President Carter and Senior Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping in Washington.

The meeting at "democracy wall" officially was in response to a recent speech by Peking Mayor Lin Huijia (Lin Hu-chia).

Mr. Lin seemed to suggest a crackdown was imminent when he warned that open criticism of society, public demonstrations, marches and underground newspapers were going beyond tolerable limits.

Undeterred by the mayor's statements, the leaders of the six human rights groups yesterday told the crowd that "the fight for human rights and democracy will continue."

Spain to open negotiations with EEC

BRUSSELS, Jan. 30 (R)—Spain will formally open negotiations with the Common Market next Monday on its bid to join the community, EEC officials said yesterday.

But detailed talks on the Spanish application, the most complex of the three now before the nine existing members, will not begin until after the summer.

Negotiations with Greece are already well advanced, with all the major political issues settled. An agreement is expected to be signed in the summer, so that it can join the community in 1981.

Portugal has formally opened negotiations, but detailed talks have been held up, partly by the change of government in Lisbon.

Officially, the three sets of talks are being kept apart, but experts here widely expect Spain and Portugal to join the EEC at the same time, later in the 1980s.

Next Monday's meeting will be chaired by French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet, president of the EEC Council of Ministers for the first half of the year.

Spain's application for EEC membership poses special problems for the existing nine because of the competition posed by its growing industry and its extensive agriculture.

It will add nearly a third to the community's agricultural area, and to the number of both farmers and farms. According to the EEC

World Briefs

Spanish police detain murder suspect

MADRID, Jan. 30 (R) — Police have detained a man suspected of murdering a supreme court judge in Madrid earlier, the informed sources said yesterday. A young woman suspected of being the getaway car was also detained, the sources said. She belongs to the extreme-left urban guerrilla organisation which claimed responsibility for the Jan. 9 killing of Judge Cruz Cuenca, the sources said. He was detained last Friday after the arrest of the young woman and two other suspected activists. In their swoop, the sources added, police also seized shotguns, a revolver, a pistol and ammunition, together with other disguise material.

Muhammad Ali nears formal retirement

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 30 (R) — World heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali said last night he planned never to fight again. He would make his formal retirement announcement on television, he said. He spoke with reporters after presenting Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim with a picture he had painted. Regarding his career as an artist, the champion said he would more pictures to be auctioned off for worthy causes. The picture presented yesterday, on the theme of peace, depicts UN headquarters and a globe symbolising the nations of the world.

Baader-Meinhof lawyer awaits own verdict

STUTTGART, West Germany, Jan. 30 (R) — A three-and-a-half year jail term was demanded yesterday for lawyer Klaus Gysi who defended Baader-Meinhof urban guerrilla group members tried for murder and bank robbery. Public prosecutor Heissler also demanded a five-year legal ban on the 46-year Stuttgart attorney, who is charged with running an information work between urban guerrillas in jail and those still at large. Croissant, who was arrested in June, 1975, jumped bail in July and fled to France, claiming political asylum. His extradition months later following a decision of the French Supreme Court of Appeal caused a political outcry from the extreme left. Lawyers are due to make their final plea next week and the verdict expected in mid-February.

Fountain of youth hidden in gooseberries

MOSCOW, Jan. 30 (R) — The secret of eternal youth squeezed from an unripe gooseberry, according to Soviet scientists, is the subject of a new book by a Soviet biologist. Research at Moscow's Institute of Biological Physics has shown the acid in the young fruit can prevent the disintegration of cells which causes illness and old age, the trade union newspaper reported. The acid, described as an "elixir of youth," is said to out-diseased and dying cells and stimulates regrowth of new cells.

Kenyan, Ethiopia leaders hold talk

NAIROBI, Jan. 30 (R)—Kenyan and Ethiopian heads of state, linked by a mutual suspicion of Somalia's intentions in the Horn of Africa, yesterday held talks in Addis Ababa, the official Ethiopian radio reported.

Kenya's Daniel Arap Moi was earlier given a warm welcome when he arrived on a three-day official visit to Marxist, military-ruled Ethiopia. He was greeted at the airport by the Ethiopian leader, Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, and crowds lined the road as the two leaders drove to the national palace, according to Addis Ababa Radio monitored in Nairobi.

Kenya, one of black Africa's most successful capitals, and its Marxist neighbour, linked by a shared fear of Somalia's intentions in the Horn of Africa, yesterday held talks in Addis Ababa, the official Ethiopian radio reported.

The situation in the region remains tense. Last month, Colonel Mengistu what he called "a last war" the "Mogadishu regime" helping guerrillas still in the region.

At a special congress of the party last week, Somali President Siyad Barre pledged continued support for guerrillas but also the door to negotiations with the end of the conflict.

A mutual defence pact between Ethiopia and Kenya was thrown in 1974, and Jomo Kenyatta, who died in August, had a small, well-equipped army — tanks, while Russia poured in \$1 billion worth of hardware into Ethiopia against the Somali secessionists in the Red Sea of Eritrea.

The commission, in its report to EEC ministers on the problems to be overcome in negotiations with Spain, said its tariff cuts had not kept pace with reductions in EEC duties on Spanish goods. This must be rectified in the early years of Spain's transition to EEC membership, it added.

Teenage sniper surrenders; 2 dead, 8 wounded

SAN DIEGO, California, Jan. 30 (R) — A 16-year-old school quietly put down her rifle and surrendered to police after shooting two men and wounding eight children and a policeman in a shooting spree.

Children were beginning lessons yesterday when the girl, identified only as Brenda, fired some 40 bullets into a school area home across the street. The children dived under their desks and ran panicked into the street as the bullets smashed and caused brickwork.

The principal of the school, Burton Wang, was shot in the head and killed when he was shot in the head. The girl, aged from six to 14, and the policeman was dying in a serious condition.

The girl said she received the rifle as a gift from her father. Her father, Police said she had 600 rounds of ammunition, part of the gift from her father.

Her father, who had pleaded with his daughter to stop using the loudspeaker to give herself up, said she was distraught by her and a long-time friend had parted.

Police evacuated the school and nearby houses when the girl broke out and sharpshooters surrounded the girl's home hours after she fired the first shots. She walked out of the house and placed the rifle on the ground. Police grabbed her and she later taken to a juvenile detention centre.

South Africa: Where to draw the line?

Many big companies are pulling out of South Africa, mainly for commercial reasons. But also for commercial reasons, there is a limit to how far this disengagement can go before it begins to hurt the West as well as South Africa.

By Lorne Barling

Despite years of political pressure, Western companies have continued to invest in South Africa on the basis that profitability is high, but the recent decision by Iran to cut off oil supplies could have profound effects.

Until recently, South Africa was receiving 90 per cent of its oil supplies from Iran, but these ceased in December and the new government has said they will not be resumed. Similarly, supplies to

Israel, a major South African trading partner, have been cut off.

Although South Africa is believed to have strategic oil stocks which could last up to three years and also produces some oil from coal, the country may have to rely on the spot market for supplies, which are likely to cost at least 30 per cent more than previously. And the longer the Iranian stoppage continues, the higher spot prices are likely to be.

South Africa is also known to receive oil supplies from other

sources including minor oil producers, but it is clear that domestic transport and production costs will increase, with consequent pressure on company profitability.

At a time when South Africa is already facing an economic slowdown and a fall in both domestic and foreign investment, the oil problem and continuing pressure for economic sanctions are bound to affect the confidence of foreign companies operating there.

The country has also been faced with a net capital outflow of \$774m in the first nine months of last year, compared with \$488m during the whole of the previous year, although its balance of payments position is strongly supported by currently high gold prices.

The attitude of foreign banks to loans for South Africa has hardened considerably in the past 18 months, and there has been a shortage of funds for major long-term projects, although many of them are government backed.

On the other hand, despite political opposition to trade with

South Africa, its export performance in the last financial year was very strong, improving by 20 per cent over the previous year.

It has diversified both its range of exports and the markets in which it sells, perhaps partially in response to the continuing pressure at the United Nations for trade sanctions.

The prospect of even limited sanctions is of particular concern to Britain, which accounts for 60 per cent of all foreign investment in South Africa, amounting to a book value of around £4bn.

The British Department of Trade has already conducted an inquiry into the possible effects of sanctions and asked major trading companies to assess their possible losses, but the results have never been made public.

However, the U.K. South Africa Trade Association recently claimed that as many as 250,000 jobs could be lost in Britain if full sanctions were applied to South Africa. Although this may be an over-estimate, the impact would clearly be devastating.

Britain also has indirect portfolio investment in South Africa amounting to about £3bn, and invisible earnings from that source estimated at £1m a year.

Although exports from the U.K. are running at around £600m a year, the British share of the market has fallen recently and there has been a steady withdrawal of assets by major companies, although these were often for purely commercial reasons.

However, although there are few direct pressures on U.K. companies to cut their investments, the growing importance of Black African markets cannot be ignored. Nigeria, for example, imports nearly twice as much as South Africa from the U.K.

Perhaps the most vital factor is South Africa's trade relationship with the United States, which increased its imports from there by 70 per cent during the first six months of last year, although trade in the opposite direction fell substantially.

Much of this U.S. buying reflects the importance of South

Africa to the West as a supplier of essential minerals. It has a glittering array of reserves—86 per cent of the world's platinum, 83 per cent of chrome ore, 64 per cent of vanadium, 48 per cent of manganese ore and 49 per cent of the gold.

Some of these are essential for the production of high technology weapons and South Africa is well aware that the world's other main repository of these minerals is the Soviet Union.

While substitutes for some of these minerals do exist, it is not clear how quickly the existing technology could be adapted to make their use possible in production.

It is therefore likely that while international market forces may reduce foreign commitment to investment and trade with South Africa, the Western nations will continue to resist pressure for sanctions.

Financial Times News-Features

50.12.1979